Sri P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I ask the Hon. the Minister whether he is justified in characterising the workers as seasonal workers when the work they are doing is of a permanent and continuous character? "

The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI :—" So far as the work is concerned, it may be seasonal. In spite of it, the department is having a great deal of work at one period and the work will be less at another period."

Sri P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I ask the Hon. the Minister if he would make some arrangements to treat them as permanent staff and admit them to some kind of service conditions? "

The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI :—" I am not in a position to say categorically anything about it, but I am trying to see whether they cannot be absorbed in the department as far as possible."

Sri P. R. K. SARMA :—" I put it to the Hon. Minister that their employment is of a continuous and permanent character, even according to the figures furnished in the statement by the Hon. Minister. May I ask whether he would give an assurance that the workers will be treated as permanent staff? "

The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI :—" I take the information from the hon. Member. I shall enquire into it."

Sri P. R. K. SARMA :—" In my question I asked for the amount of work done on contract and also departmentally. Figures were furnished only in regard to work done departmentally and not for work done on contract. May I know when those figures will be finished? "

The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI :—" Certainly I shall try to get those figures."

Inspecting staff of Industrial schools.

* 68 *Q.*—Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Industrial schools, both Government and aided which have to be inspected by the Inspector of Industrial Schools;

(*b*) whether, in view of the increasing number of Industrial schools seeking aid, there is a proposal to increase the inspecting staff; and

(*c*) whether the question of creating a separate inspecting staff for the Industrial schools, with a Chief Inspector and Regional Inspectors under him has been considered at any time?

The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI :—" (*a*) The number of Government and aided schools inclusive of Certified and Borstal schools, to be inspected by the Inspector of Industrial Schools is 61. In addition, there are 30 Textile Schools which are inspected by the Principal of the Textile Institute.

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" (b) In view of the starting of Polytechnics and new Industrial Schools all over the Province on a regional basis, a need was felt for strengthening the inspecting staff. Two Inspectors of Technical and Industrial schools are already working. No further increase is considered necessary for the present or until the new schools get fully developed.

" (c) No."

a * 69 Q. and * 70 Q.

Pay and allowances of lower division clerks.

* 71 *Q.*—Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) what the present scales of pay of lower division clerks in the city and elsewhere are;

(b) whether these clerks are entitled to other allowances and, if so, what they are;

(c) when these scales of pay were fixed;

(d) whether any dearness allowance is paid and, if so, what relation it bears to the present cost of living index;

(e) whether it is a fact that there is considerable discontent among the members of this service as the scales are considered inadequate;

(f) whether the Salaries Committee examined this question and, if so, what their recommendation is;

(g) whether the Salaries Committee gave an opportunity to this and other services to plead their case before them; and

(h) whether the Government propose to give effect at least to the recommendation of the Salaries Committee in regard to the scales of pay of the lower grade clerks?

The Hon. Sri T. PRAKASAM :—" (a) The existing scale of pay of lower division clerks in the mufassal is Rs. 30—3/2—45—2/2—55. If they are posted to work within the Madras City limits, they will become eligible for a Presidency allowance of Rs. 6–8–0 per mensem. The scale of pay of lower division clerks in the Madras City is as follows:—

'A' class office—Rs. 37—3/2—70.

'B' and 'C' class offices—Rs. 30—3/2—45—2/2—55 (plus a Presidency allowance of Rs. 6½).

Secretariat Service and Governor's Secretariat—Rs. 40—3/2—55—5/2—70.

" (b) Lower division clerks working in 'B' and 'C' class offices, and other lower division clerks drawing the mufassal scale of pay (Rs. 30—55), will be eligible to draw a Presidency allowance of Rs. 6½ each per mensem, if they reside within the City limits. They will be also eligible for dearness allowance [vide question (d)].

" (c) These scales of pay were fixed in the year 1932-33.

" (d) The lower division clerks drawing Rs. 40 and above are entitled to a dearness allowance of Rs. 18 per mensem and those drawing less than Rs. 40, to a dearness allowance of Rs. 16 per mensem.

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a Starred questions 69 and 70 answered on 11th September 1946.